

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 NIC-01

DRC-01 /156 W

----- 038595

R 051356Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9075

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB

SUBJECT: DGB POSITION RE CGT ENTRY INTO ETUC

REF: PARIS 2954 AND 30194, BONN 16457

1. REFTELS REPORT THAT DESPITE VETTER'S STATEMENTS TO THE CONTRARY, SOME FRENCH CONTINUE TO BELIEVE STATEMENTS BY GEORGE SEGUY THAT DGB AND VETTER APPROVE ENTRY OF COMMUNIST CGT INTO ETUC.

2. AS REFTELS INDICATE, VETTER REAFFIRMED HIS OPPOSITION TO CGT ENTRY INTO THE ETUC ON NOVEMBER 1 IN A FORCE-OUVRIERE-DGB JOINT COMMUNIQUE, REPORTED BY ASSOCIATED PRESS AND GERMAN NEWSPAPERS IN ARTICLES DATED PARIS NOVEMBER 1, AND TO THE "LIAISON SOCIALES" (AFP) CORRESPONDENT IN BONN.

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3. WE SEE NO REASON TO BELIEVE THAT VETTER HAS CEASED

TO OPPOSE ENTRY OF CGT INTO ETUC OR TO BELIEVE THAT DGB
OPPOSITION TO ENTRY IS BASED ON THE WORDING OF THE ETUC
CHARTER AS SOME LABOR AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN PARIS
BELIEVE. AS REPORTED IN BONN 16457, DGB SOURCES CON-
TINUE TO REAFFIRM OPPOSITION OF VETTER AND DGB TO CGT
AND CGIL. IN CONVERSATIONS WITH LABATT ON NOVEMBER 28,
DGB OFFICIALS DECLARED THEIR POSITION AGAINST CGIL AFFI-
LIATION WITH THE ETUC. THEY DID NOT OBJECT THAT SUCH
AFFILIATION IS IMPOSSIBLE UNDER THE ETUC CONSTITUTION,
BUT RATHER THEY MAINTAINED THAT THE DGB OPPOSES MEMBER-
SHIP OF THE COMMUNIST ORGANIZATION ON IDEOLOGICAL
GROUND. FOR IDEOLOGICAL REASONS THE DGB TRIED UN-
SUCCESSFULLY IN THE FOUNDING CONGRESS TO HAVE THE ETUC
NAMED THE EUROPEAN CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS.

4. IF SEGUY HAS CONTINUED HIS MISREPRESENTATIONS
FOLLOWING THE VETTER STATEMENT OF NOVEMBER 1, IT WOULD
BE HELPFUL WITH OUR CONTACTS HERE IF EMBASSY PARIS
COULD DETERMINE WHEN AND WHERE HE MADE THEM. IF VETTER
AND OTHER TOP DGB OFFICIALS ARE AWARE OF SEGUY'S CON-
TINUED CLAIMS AND OF THEIR POSSIBLE EFFECTS, PERHAPS
THEY WILL SEE FIT TO DISAVOW SEGUY'S CLAIMS AGAIN AND
EVEN MORE STRONGLY.
HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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